

View of Pleasant Run from Arlington Avenue Bridge

Hints on How the Householder May Beautify His Backyard

Robert Cameron, Head Gardener of the Harvard Botanic Gardens, Furnishes Some Excellent Ideas on the Subject... Smallest Lot of Land May be Made Into a Landscape Picture

yard which the whole family foresees beau- racemes of blue. Of the compositae two

are always the geranium sanguinea, which

and the blue Echinops, belonging to the

and half-hardy perennials that are attrac-

tive. In early spring one may consider

Siline pendula and forget-me-nots; the

phloxes and the Stellaria holostea-a

dainty, starlike white blossom. Then,

while the summer is still young, the dwarf Veronicas come in, followed by the peoples

For the late season there is a long list in

which many old-time favorites appear. One

must include here the pale blue monkshead,

the delicate anemone, the Helenium, which

puts forth its many-petalled yellow blos-

soms; the New England asters; black-eyed

Susans, noble stonecrop, which puts forth

autumn, in colors ranging from a rosy

flesh tint through carmine to shades of

deep purple; the day lilies and the orange-yellow sundrops. And to such a list, the

surbanite must add in large letters the glor-

About the borders of flower beds the wise

amateur will set out bulbous plants-allium-

snowdrops, hyacinths and lilies; the many

species of narcissus, meadow saffron, dainty Erythroniums, including the dogtooth;

beautiful spring flowering squills and bril-

er growths all that is needed, Mr. Cameron

the different seeds and bulbs to best ad-

difficult one to acquire, but the latter comes

with long practice and study of manuals,

soils, fertilizers and the weather. And when

next winter's frosts come around the back-

yard gardener will find he has gained in

health and knowledge and in the apprecia-

lous foxgloves and hollyhocks.



THE spring the average house- | Japanese importation that is a particularly holder's fancy lightly turns to | fine plant for the late summer, and which thoughts of gardening. True he kind needs may not be able to do very much | When profusion of color is desired there at it. The means at hand are

haps only ten by fifteen feet. Its supply of with its great blossoms of violet purple ther the man nor his wife was properly | top-and the Aster alpinus, the blue daisy "How to Tell the Wild Flowers from the come up year after year-are especially nowadays so popular.

perhaps exceedingly limited. The back

Both may even be ignorant of the sub- places. The large-growing perennials are ject matter of Bridget Wiggs's monumental also very useful for producing a sub- of its little waterways. One of the cardinal a great deal, and the tales of weird doings the stream to the other. Crows, jays and thousands, he will find little difficulty in a day from his dad. He can stay on the work on "Queer Bugs I Have Saw in My suburbanite should especially consider the tion of health. The better the san-Cabbage Patch," and, quite likely, neither sunflower; the various Silphiums-embrac- itary laws the higher civilized are the peoof them has ever experienced the delight of ling the compass plant, the cup plant and ple. Art, music, the science of baseball taking the Kneipp cure across the neighArundo donax, with its long, slender itation. To permit open sewers to offend bors' lawns on a dewy May morning. Yet, leaves; spikenard and other varieties of the nostrils in midsummer, thereby inviteven the most conventional American man | mon rhubarb, but which has numerous | in twelve months is not enough. and wife find themselves longing in the other varieties effective for ornamentation; early spring to become landscape architects | the stately, graceful Centaurea, with its

become such-so, at least, Mr. Robert Cameron, the head gardener of the Harvard botanic gardens, says. Mr. Cameron has been many years conducting the practical work in this notable department of the university on a fine old estate owned by Harvard, and has been raising more plants and shrubs than most people ever saw. He believes thoroughly in the back yard eautified behind the house beautiful. A few of the very rich in this country are able to engage landscape architects to make their estates worthy of being written up with gorgeous illustrations in the magazines. Mr. Cameron finds, however, that there are a few simple principles which, if followed consistently, will enable anybody who is willing to take a its thick clusters in late summer and early little pains in the adornment of his place to get favorable results; and this spring, he holds, is the right time to begin. Let the suburbanite business man, he thinks, remember the maxim which he sticks over his office boy's desk and "Do It Now."
"The smallest lot of land attached to a house," says Mr. Cameron, "may, if given thought and consideration, be made into a landscape picture. The great trouble with most owners of small lots of ground is that they do not understand how to plant

"In making up his landscape picture the amateur artist must have a canvas to green lawn. The lawn is the first requisite, and it should ordinarily present a vantage. The former asset is seemingly a lot. The beds and borders should be thoroughly prepared before planting begins. If the soil is poor or lacking humus, a liberal quantity of well rotted barnyard manure should be worked into it.

in order to get the most pleasing effects. The area is usually covered all over with

trees and shrubs, and hence the work is

"The piantations of trees and shrubs should be confined to the outer edges and margins of the lot; and, as a general rule, all shrubbery should be in irregular masses. The eye is not pleased with the sight of two clumps of bushes of exactly be left wherever there is an especially pleasing vista. Many people make the mistake of entirely shutting their gardens in. Vines and dwarf shrubbery ought to be planted near the house and the piazza so as to bring them into close union with the

shrubs should be used by amateurs-those requiring no protection in winter and blossoming abundantly during the season. Shrubs suitable for the amateur's garden may be planted either in the spring or the

graceful in growth, handsome in foliage the background of tall shrubs, mock oranges, Philadelphus grandiflora and Pyrus neysuckles, privets and tall barberries. "For the center of the bed, which have been prepared with the grounds, use medlum sized shrubs such as Japanese quinces, Weigelicas, Spiraeas, Berberis Thunbergii, Forsythias, Hydrangeas, Symphorocarpos or snowberry, Rhodotypos Kerrioides, Rosa-

In front of the borders, making a transition from the smooth lawns to the tall shrubs, plant some of the very low shrubs. among which the safest are Deutzia gracilis, Kerria Japonica, Ribes aureum, Spiraea Anthony Waterer, Spiraea Thunbergii and

"For very cool shady spots, as under a clump of trees, the best varieties are rhododendrons, azaleas and kalmias. Good shrubby climbers for the piazza and house are the Wisteria sinensis. Dutchman's pipe, all. Nobody who has his eyes and ears Aristilochia sipho Akebia quinata. Clematis paniculata, Farquhar rose sweetheart white climbing rose and crimson rambler rose. "Any of the foregoing varieties, which are very useful in the northern and central portions of the United States, may be obtained from good nurserymen." the amateur landscape architect will do well to select the leafy adornments of his backyard. But it's a weak enthusiast who will not also demand flowers. A long series | ing on every hand. Decidedly spring has of beautiful blooms to keep his garden bril- | come. liant from the first days of spring to late autumn are what the suburbanite wants. To be wholly satisfied with his efforts he

set of blossoms goes to seed another takes And there is almost no limit, as Mr. Cameron states, to the number of hardy plants that the amateur can profitably use in his garden. In fact, the greatest danger | can in a house; but she can't do the things is that he will select too many and choke the open spaces of his central lawn. Flowers should be of the nature of fringes or an attic and a cellar to make uncomfortemployed in small masses; the garden pic- able. There isn't the same amount of rev-

smooth green. A good-sized list of these hardy plants has been prepared, and, since it embodies the results of long experience and experi- For it is a joy. Only a woman knows what den, it is likely to be of considerable value. Early among the bloomers that the ama-Alyssum saxatyle, popularly known as which is the Rocky mountain columbine, with its blue and white blossoms fitting rock cress; the dwarf phlox whose profuse William, belonging to the same family catchfly; primrose and cowslips; the bril- inhabitable for several days. Some of the lunch. She followed the waiting policy Hant poppies, peonies and irises-in particu- tenants went to hotels, others went out of till 2 o'clock, then she resorted to the tellar the German iris, which will flourish the city to make enforced visits with rela- ephone again. It was another man this almost anywhere and the Iris leabigata, a tives; and most of them wished for the l time. He spoke with decision. He did not

Pretty Pleasant Run, Where Artists Sketch and Nature Lovers Linger

Its Beauties Pictured and Storied... Well-Patronized Old Swimming Holes... Resort for Indianapolis Painters, Butler College Students, Botanists, Wild Flower Seekers and Disciples of Thoreau

hill sides and help feed thee; the fishes, the "bridge of sighs." It is still a favorite turtles, frogs and harmless snakes that people the depths of thy pools and furnish sport for the small boy; the sand and

is not all beautiful. That portion between and from the dam in the park to White river has been defiled by civilization. It ization, which is supposed to educate and is an eyesore. In summertime old tin cans, discarded boots and shoes, in fact, rub-Therefore it may be asserted that while turnal wanderers can tell. Strange stories which are good for city back yards, because they can professing to grow rapidly in culture and have been told by near-by residents, but really retrograding in permitting pollution by blood-curdling yells are apt to imagine tropical effect. For the latter purpose the principles of civilization is the preservawhether behind the times, up with them Aralia; the Rheums, a kind which we re- ing pestilence, savors of barbarism. It is gard as better adorning a pie plate than a flower garden when we think of com-

> on sanitation, but the recollection of what silvery leaves; blue or white Erynglums, I saw in the city last summer, compared with a recent view of Pleasant run north and east of Irvington, was an incitement For lawn beds there are numerous hardy | that could be stilled only by "speaking my

and what pleasant er's woods the course of the stream turns | every graduate of both sexes, know the sharply to the east. Trees overhang its run, its shady and sunny banks, and many avenue bridge. Looking west from the stead of coming from the northwest it is and painted by nearly every artist in the stories I told why the bridge was named | wild flowers in the spring. Just below

rent, dashing against the south pier, has water. It was no easy task to cross it, and changes thy course develops and which worked out a hole where minnows, catfish | occasionally a boy with wet clothes could often yield a prize in the form of a "geo" | and suckers can be seen. Farther down is ! be seen scrambling up the bank. through field and thicket wherever thy such a swimming hole that James Whitwandering takes thee, and the soothing comb Riley has immortalized, but it has they race over stony bed or surge past the branches and leaves making a wela tree that partly blocks thy channel-all | come shade on hot days, and there is a slow | these have I and hundreds of other nature giving the bathers fresh water all the time lovers of Indianapolis known and appre- they are in it. There are plenty of other best screened from houses and roadways.

Fort Hilton U. Brown and Garfield Park | sulphur spring, marked by a yellowish or to the creek by a yellowish-red irregular may seem contradictional to say that civil- forest trees known as Ellenberger's woods, refine, can defile, but it is true as to he or she has picnicked in the grove, botanstreams that run through cities. Pleasant of wild flowers, or visited it by moonlight, run, within the boundaries of Indianapolis, properly chaperoned, and participated in a

> STRANGE STORIES TOLD. And what happens there sometimes at

while private sewers and drains foul its | midnight, when the frat "spiking" season waters. The same may be said of Pogue's is over and initiation begins, only the run and, in a lesser degree, of Fall creek. Greeks, the owls and the four-footed noca coffined initiate into the water. No human skeleton ever has been found in the classic confines of Irvington-none, at least, since their accumulation of filth, but one cleaning | the secrets of the Holmes house were disclosed-and no student honored by election into a college fraternity ever has comhis medicine, to use a slang phrase, and waits until next year to assist in admin-

Beginning a few squares north of Washington street there is a succession of beauty

Perhaps I have digressed too far from of geology and botany give the students outings along the banks and bed of the stream would be complete without allusion

Perhaps I have digressed too far from outings along the banks and bed of the but if he does or not he shall have it.

WM. H. KAYLOR.

"This boy of mine may need this travel, but if he does or not he shall have it.

"Marion has attended the common schools

RUN! What a pleas- | spots along Pleasant run. At Ellenberg- | to, Butler students. They all, as well as A ZIGZAG LINE.

Above where the footbridge was there is a high bank on the south side of the stream and below it a deep hole, where red-eyes and sunfish have been caught Looking east the course of the stream can be traced by the zigzag line that seems to have been cut in a pretty piece of bottom land that is well covered with bluegrass. At the Arlington-avenue bridge which is high above the water, a good view of the stream, as it flows westward or comes from the east, can be obtained. East of the bridge the north bank occasionally rises high above the water, and at one point it assumes the form of a bluff, with shrubbery and willows growing down

walked its paths many times and always robins, thrushes and other birds sing in the of their out-of-the-ordinary trend. trees above the stream and drink and bathe in its waters. Muskrats are occasionally seen and rabbits often are frightened from a thicket. If you sit on the bank has exhibited that tendency up to date, and and remain quiet you can see how the the father is determined to gorge the son water moccasin gliding from one side of is variously estimated in the hundreds of may be overdrawn. Anyhow, what mat- blackbirds break the quiet of the scene, doing this. for they are ever present, and sometimes a ters it if a procession of white-robed stu- feminine laugh or the voices of boys and dents carrying a casket passes along the girls reminds you that you are not alone son," was the elder brewer's jocular re-

Among the artists who have sketched and painted some of the scenes along the lobby. run are T. C. Steele, R. B. Gruelle, Will Forsyth, Otto Stark, Harry Williamson also sketch and paint there and professors | than from the plane of hoboing. WM. H. KAYLOR. | "Marion has attended the common schools | his insatiate desire for travel.



Where Spring Freshets in Pleasant Run Expose Gravel Beds

Indulgent Lawrenceburg Brewer Will Gorge Son with Travel

Victor Oberling, a Wealthy Indiana Man, Has Put His Son Marion, Twenty Years Old, On an Allowance of Five Dollars a Day and Sent Him on a Trip Around the World



son, Marion S. Oberting, The presence of the father and son in Cincinnati was the prelude to a peculiar story, the

Marion Oberting is twenty years of age

him \$5 a day for his expenses, and when many. He will tour Germany, France, ried one of Queen Wilhelmina's fair sub- his funds run low he may walk or stop at | Switzerland and the Mediterranean counjects), Bruce Rogers (now a well-known a cheap boarding house until at \$5 a day tries, and then take in South Africa, if he Boston artist), Miss Bessie Hendricks and he retrenches himself. I have arranged to follows the plans he has mapped out. I Miss Kate Layman, an amateur. Miss send him his money each month so long as trust he will get to China and Japan after Blanche Ostertag, of Chicago, spends part | he wants to travel and see the world. I | the war is over, but he will look out for of the summer sketching and painting the | think it far better for him to look the globe | himself as to that. I have warned him to scenery north of Irvington, which includes | over from the seat of a Pullman or from | keep out of the Balkans, but his actions Pleasant run. Classes from the college the vantage point of a first-class steamer will be guided by his own wishes. When I

ICTOR OBERTING, a wealthy of Lawrenceburg, the High School, the ment here and there, and he came home

"I have fitted him out, without regard to cost, in all the trappings he will need, from road ten years in this manner if he sees fit. "I am fortunate enough to be the largest "I want to introduce to you my traveling property owner in Lawrenceburg, and I guess I shall be able to keep the wolf from the door if he roams that long. He starts to-morrow for Chicago, Duluth and the great lake region. He will return from there to this city, and from here go to New York. many times as he sees fit. I have allotted and will sail early this summer for Gerand when he does return it must be void of

"These concerts have been so popular

"We have also decided," continued Pres-

that the board feels they should not be dis-

pensed with. They attract thousands of

people to the parks and I think do a mate-

ident Coffin, "to put in two more baseball

diamonds at Riverside for the benefit of

the local clubs. As this is the purely Amer-

ican game the Park Board wants to do

OUTDOOR SPORTS.

has increased to such a great extent in the

past few years and Riverside Park affords

such excellent opportunities in this direc-

tion that we will try and arrange every ac-

commodation for those who desire to enjoy

"Will golf be as popular as ever?" was

"Yes," he said, "golf will be played as

all indications. The golf course was en-

larged year before last by the addition of

nine holes, thereby making it a full eight-

een-hole course, which is said to be the

had charge of the links at the Country

Club, has been employed by the board and

we think the golf grounds will be ready

for the public about the time the parks

land Golf Club," President Coffin went on

to say, "the ground west of the river, where

the club has, at its own expense, made a

very fine eighteen-hole course. This ground

has never been used for park purposes and

therefore it would have required quite a

sum of money to get it in shape. As it is

now, this club will improve the grounds

and when they are again turned back to

the city they will be in excellent condition

and the board will not be out of pocket a

way of amusements for the large number

asked President Coffin.

of children who visit the parks?" was

"The board has bought fifty new double-

seated iron swings in which the children

always find a great amount of pleasure.

These will be distributed at the various

parks. A large number of new benches

have been bought for the different parks.

A novelty for Military, Garfield and Brook-

side Parks this summer is a patent merry.

go-round which a child can operate. It is

expected that these will be quite popular

with the children. The board has also purchased a number of May poles, and be-

sides the big rope swings at Riverside, and

other forms of amusement which they can

find around these places, the board feels

that the provision for the children is very

Enormous Automobile.

"What has the Park Board done in the

'The board has also leased to the High-

"Mr. Lee Nelson, who has heretofore

best public course in the country.

what it can to help it along. There will

also be added four more tennis courts, .

"You see the tendency for outdoor sports

rial good to the city and the people.

which will give us six in all.

asked the president.



tion of things beautiful-all this for a small outlay of time and money Garfield Park Pagoda Cambridge, Mass., April 23. Housecleaning and Moving Time Is Here

to all accounts, a minimum of taut for a refuge at night. clothing and furniture, insist turvy when spring came round, piling the it, "There is another." The other is moving. the clotheslines and driving our prehistoric and then perhaps it would not stay settled. and moderate in size, is the following: For | fathers to the treetops for refuge? If she | In the springtime the instinct for change | did not-if she permitted the rugs to stay coronaria, lilacs of hardy sort, tall Deut- just where they were and bothered not at zias, shrubby Hebiscuses, Viburnus, cor- all about the possible accumulation of dust of all varieties of lares and penates, moving been disconnected, but the grates would the place numerous blue-print drawings are nels or dogwoods, snowballs, Tartarian and prehistoric microbes; if she permitted all. At least it is from a masculine view-

It's different with a woman. Housecleaning is in her blood and she can't help it. If the prehistoric mother didn't houseclean probably, after all, she was persuaded not to with a club, after the gentle custom of the prehistoric father; so perhaps open in the last week can doubt that the long-looked for and almost despaired-of springtime has actually arrived. A general deshabile in the appearance of every other house in town, an almost immodest scarcity of drapery at windows, a generous dis-So much for the shrubbery from which play of furniture and rugs in yards and on verandas, the monotonous thwack of the carpet-beaters and the swish of the mop, have assailed the senses of sight and hear-

Housecleaning is an old, old story, but flatcleaning is a comparatively new one. The woman who housecleans her flat doesn't must make such a selection that when one have half so good a time of it as the woman who housecleans her house. Of course she can tie up her head and tuck up her skirts just the same as the housecleaner, and she can pile her chairs and tables and cabinets into just as obnoxious heaps, in a flat as she on the expansive scale that she can manage hotly. "I talked to you twice on Saturday, when she has an upstairs and a downstairs, ture must have plain, unadorned tracts elry in it. Neither has she the joy of havwhere the eye will rest upon nothing but | ing her rugs and carpets hung on the clothesline in the back yard and beholding the clouds of dust that go up from them at the merry whacks of the carpet beaters. mentation at the Harvard Botanical Gar- | satisfying bliss it is; it gives her the same thrill of joy that she feels when she rubs her handkerchief over her face on her reteur is likely to be successful with are the turn from a trip flown town and finds it covered with dirt. Outwardly she laments, golden tuft or gold dust; the nodding col- but in her heart of hearts she knows she'd umbine-a particularly pretty species of feel cheated if it were not there. No: the poor flat dweller shakes her little rugs out the window or over the back porch and her well into the margin of a fixed border; the big ones she has to see loaded into a wagon and driven off to the cleaner's-and she never does have the satisfaction of out in April and May; Jacob's ladder; sweet | knowing just how full of dust they were. A number of Indianapolis flats are havof carnations and lifting dark purple and ing a general housecleaning this year and white flowers a good two feet above the that is a serious matter. In some cases soil; the blue harebell-Campanula carpar- the cleaning amounts to the painting or other waters in the house where she was tica; the showy larkspur; bleeding heart- | cleaning of the outside of the building and | going-at haif-past ten. Dicentra spectabilis-one of the most grace- a general renovation of the halls. In at ful hardy plants of the early summer; the least one case, however, the entire build- eleven, and just as many. She concluded bitter vetch, or Orobus, revealing beautiful | ing has been done over; all the halls and | to wait till noon. Then it was no use to purples and blues, with red veins and the walls of the apartments have been green-tinted keel; the scarlet Lychins, or | painted, and the place was absolutely un- | waited, expecting the vans directly after

spring brings in her train, however. As the other, hanging the infrequent rugs out on | way to settle which is the most uncomfrom the shelter of one vine and fig tree | serve for cooking as well as for heating. | strewn. In the office are a number of large to another more desirable one. At least It was very jolly and picnicky. They carour prehistoric fathers to live as nearly it looks more desirable just then, while ried the edibles from the kitchen to their in peace in the lovely springtime as they | the moving process is on; but after things | room upstairs-shades were drawn all over | this summer. have been settled in their places it is usu- | the house and they did not care to cook and | ally discovered that the window fastenings | eat in full gaze of the public-and Mr. progress of woman has gone very far after | than fasten, and that the neighbors are not | while Mrs. Blank prepared their picnic supits procession of moving vans, there is an- gas. other shifting of the lares and penates, and the moving procession moves merrily on. This is the true story of the experience

The couple in question have not been housekeeping very long; in fact, they have not been married very long. This was their she wasn't so praiseworthy a being after first move, and consequently they did not know all that is to be known of moves and movers; they do not feel, even now, that they know all there is to be known, but they are several degrees sadder and

of one Indianapolis couple-virtually a mov-

Following the good old recipe they caught their first hare of all. The new house was duly and painstakingly selected and made as nearly ready as a house may be before the time of moving. The packing was systematically done, and on Saturday before the day the Mrs. Blank called up the transfer men and left an order for the biggest van at half-past 7 on Monday. Sunday she passed in peaceful anticipation of the morrow.

The morrow came; likewise half-past 7; but the transfer men did not. At really care about moving. 8 o'clock Mrs. Blank called up the transfer company. "Why, we havn't any such order on our books," said the man at the other end. How Mrs. Blank hated that

and I know you have it." "Wait a minute," said the man. You always have to wait a minute when you talk to the transfer men. It was several minutes this time before he returned. Mrs. Blank's tone had been somewhat cutting and his was correspondingly mild. "We have your order, but unfortunately we had a couple of jobs left over from Saturday and we've got to finish them up, but we'll get our wagons up to you by half-past ten and you'll get moved all right this morn-

Mrs. Blank waited in peace and quietness. The plumber man came and disconnected her kitchen range. He did something else that he didn't tell her about, but she found it out later. He turned off the gas from the house. Then the water man came, in accordance with the orders of trusting Mr. Blank down town, and turned off the water. And Mrs. Blank welcomed them all sweetly, for she knew that there were other gases and

But half-past ten came, and still no vans call them up at the noon hour, so she

ID our prehistoric mothers who good old ante-flat days, when, no matter see how such a mistake had occurred, but lived in caves and had, according how torn up the house was, there was al- they had absolutely no record of such an by the middle of next month all the parks ways some nook and cranny left snug and order. They were very busy, but they would send their vans late in the after-House cleaning is not the only evil that noon and get her moved by night surely. Spring brings in her train, however. As the "No, you won't!" said Mrs. Blank. "I repair the heavy damage caused by the heroine of the melodrama usually puts cannot possibly get moved till to-morrow now, and I'll get somebody else for that, thank you.

So she ordered her vans from another transfer company and spent the afternoon waiting in her packed-up house Evening came and with it Mr. Blank. He its dwelling places, and the first of May | nace had been allowed to go out, but there sees a long procession of moving vans full | were fires in the grates; the gas range had of the vine and fig tree do anything rather | Blank proceeded to light the gas to read, time another springtime rolls round, with | match to light the gas, but there was no

> "Not a lamp in the house!" gasped Mrs. Blank. "Nor a candle. I've got a little coal oil. I'll borrow a lamp from Mrs. Nextdoor-I know she has a little one she uses in the cellar.' The lamp was borrowed, filled with coal oil, and that furnished light for the Blank

family sat up. That is practically the end of the story, ordered her vans the day before sent their wagon at a few minutes past 7: at a quarter past 7 the transfer company from whom Mrs. Blank ordered a van on, Saturday sent their wagon, and five minutes later a transfer company of whom Mrs. Blank never heard sent their van. And she discovered that the big bottle from which she filled her lamp the night before

was her gasoline bottle, which was, in out-

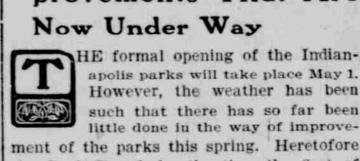
ward and visible signs, exactly like her

Mrs. Blank doesn't know whether there is a moral to the story or not; but she doesn't

kerosene oil bottle.

Formal Opening of the City's Parks Will Take Place May 1 This Year

Superintendent Power and the Board Have Been Delayed in Their Plans by the Damage Wrought by the Recent Floods. .Improvements That Are Now Under Way



However, the weather has been such that there has so far been little done in the way of improvement of the parks this spring. Heretofore the Park Board, by the time the first of May has arrived, has had everything in readiness for the opening. The flower beds, previously, have all been made, the walks and roadways have been put in shape, and the large improvements well under way, but this year, on account of the long winter and the floods, which damaged the parks extensively, little has been done.

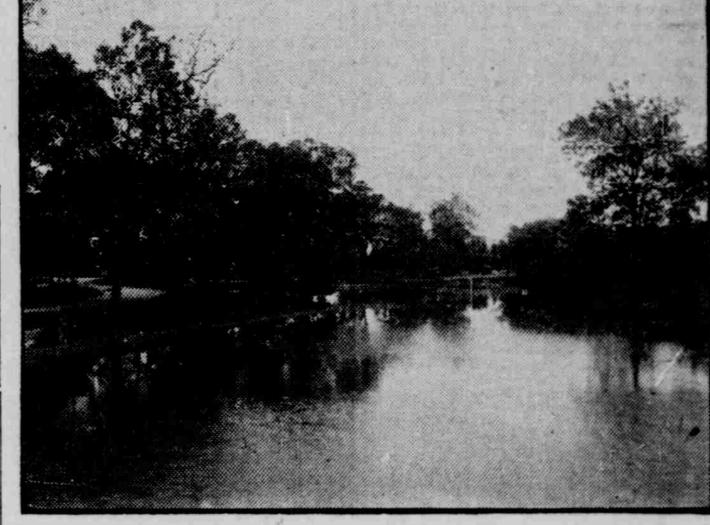
The board, however, is pushing the work as fast as it is able, and it is thought that will be in fairly good shape, although it Parks suffered the most damage.

The office of the Park Board now presents a busy scene. Draughtsmen are working at large tables, drawing plans of the varisummer, and on every desk and table about double swings that will be seen in the parks

The employes of the office particularly enjoy the swings, and in them spend most of their noon hour. In the midst of all all that could be desired. So that by the per over the grate. That is, he lighted a this work sits J. Clyde Power, the engineer and superintendent. He is continually working on new designs for the various

As Mr. Power explained the other day, the making of a park is an immense study, and all that is done is with a view to the future. house for the part of the night that the The growth of the trees and shrubbery, the creation of romantic dells, the establishment of perfectly natural landscapes, the for the next day they moved. But before designs of all permanent improvements, amount of work done at Brookside, Spades transfer company from whom Mrs. Blank | such as roads, walks, bridges, dams, buildings, etc., must be with one end in viewthat of a harmonious picture for the future. The arranging of the parks is a constant study not only to Superintendent Power, tain the park system of the city, and the but to all of the members of the board, entire amount the board receives for mainfor one improvement always suggests another and together they go to make up the amount necessary for keeping up the

> Also the appearance of the parks and their general care depend much upon the workmen, and those in charge of the indi-



Beautiful Lake in Garfield Park

vidual parks, for the board has found by a concert every Sunday afternoon at Riverexperience that very few men are caapable, side and Garfield Parks, and at Military recent flood. Riverside and Brookside either by natural instinct or by the train- and Brookside Parks every other Sunday ing of the mind, to care for the parks un- afternoon. der their charge, not to say anything of

directing laborers how to follow instruc-QUESTION OF EMPLOYING HELP.

changing employes the parks have been more damaged than benefited. It is not always the man who loves a flower, or a tree, says Superintendent Power, who can man who scarcely knows a flower from a weed who obeys instructions and is therefore the most valuable man.

The work in the parks this year will consist principally in building a shelter house at Riverside and putting the 1,000 acres there in good shape. At the other parks there will not be a great amount accomplished aside from the general improve- | much the coming summer as ever, from

To do this there will have to be a great and Riverside, and at the two former parks wooden bridges will have to be built. The board will also have the same trouble to contend with this summer that it has always had, and that is a lack of funds. It takes from \$65,000 to \$70,000 a year to maintaining and improving the parks does not exceed from \$50,000 to \$100,000, and when parks is deducted there is little left for general improvements.

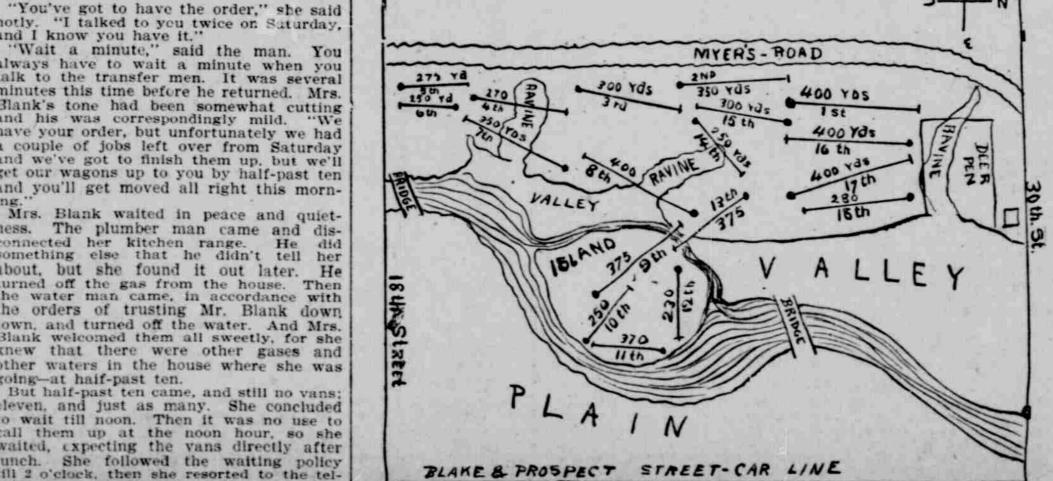
The most extensive undertaking the park board will have on its hands this year will be the building of the large shelter house at Riverside. Charles E. Coffin, president of the board, in talking of this the other day, said:

"The shelter house, which will be built at Riverside Park this year, is going to be very artistic and at the same time very useful. It will be of two stories with a large basement which will have numerous lockers and will also be an excellent room for the storing of bicycles. The first floor will be of cement and it will be used for band concerts and also a place for shelter when a storm blows up. "The almost novel feature about the shelter house will be the restaurant on the

second floor. It is the first time anything of this kind has even been attempted by the board, but we feel that it will meet with general favor on account of the number of people who visit the park and wish to remain either all day or the greater part of it and do not want to carry a lunch. "The house we are going to build will not be finished before next November. It will be of Moorish architecture with very little woodwork about it. The frame will all be of iron, while the other material will be cement. "The roof will be of iron covered with

tiling. With so little wood about the building, we feel that it will be almost fireproof. So far there is nothing but the foundation finished. The cost of the shelter house will be \$35,000 and we think it will not only be a very beautiful place, but will fill a want that has long been apparent at the park. President Coffin was asked if the usual

A Cleveland man has recently had constructed for his use and pleasure an autoing comfortably twenty-eight people and more. The machine will climb any grade up to 20 per cent., with ease, and is luxuriously band concerts were to be held this sum- fitted. A description says that it will prove "So far no definite arrangements have those who travel in it. It cost \$25,000, and teen made in regard to band concerts in is almost as large as a railway locomothe city parks. The idea is now to have tive.



Riverside Park Golf Linns